

## AN EXCITED COURT.

## A TERRIBLE SCENE THEREIN.

Johnson, the burglar, attempt to kill

A lawyer, N. Y., special says: The

most exciting scene ever witnessed in a court-room in this region occurred this afternoon. Judge William Rumney was upon the bench. The trial of John Johnson, of New York, who was arrested in this vicinity a few weeks ago for numerous bold burglaries, after attempting to kill his captors, had been in progress all day and was nearing its end. There was intense interest in the case, and every seat in the court-room was occupied, while scores of people stood in the aisles for hours, and the galleries were filled with women of all grades of society. Johnson was a few days ago indicted on twelve different counts, and it was agreed to try him on the most important one first. This was assault with intent to kill upon a police officer in Newark. Johnson was angered when he heard of it, and vowed he would do anything, no matter how desperate, to escape punishment on that charge. The sheriff and jailer, fearing him, guarded him very closely.

At 5 o'clock this afternoon the testimony was all in, and it was seen that he would surely be convicted. District Attorney Hoag was on his feet, and the prosecution and the defense were still with breathless interest. "It has been shown beyond doubt," said the District Attorney, "that the prisoner at the bar intended to commit murder." Instantly, and before any one was aware of it, Johnson had leaped from the prisoner's box and was within a few feet of the District Attorney, swearing that he would kill him.

The prisoner's guards were up at once, but they were too late. The judge ran to one side of the court-room. The District Attorney and stenographer, in fear and trembling, ran behind the witness-stand. The clerk took refuge behind a huge desk, and the jury scattered. Women in the gallery screamed and gasped, expecting to see a murder committed before their eyes, while many burst through the doors and dashed down the stairs, and about to hold order at the District Attorney, when County Judge Collins caught hold of him from the bar, and others held him in check. Johnson is a powerful fellow, and in a moment had pushed them aside, when the guards were upon him. The excitement became even more intense, and louder screams filled the air. Two women fainted. "Kill him!" "Kill him!" "Lynch the rascal!" were shouted by scores of excited men, while the guards fought desperately with the prisoner. James Hutchings was knocked down, while two others had their faces and scalps cut and bruised, before Johnson was overpowered. Then he was hampered into submission with steel handcuffs until his face was a bleeding mass. Blood had dripped from his forehead. The leaders in the trouble are upon the carpet. All this time the excitement continued at the highest pitch, and Johnson continued a volley of profanity, vulgarity, and vows of vengeance. He was finally thrown back to the prisoner's box, while the judge and the constables spent some time in calming the audience. The District Attorney did not resume his address, but the judge adjourned the court, and they all immediately found the prisoner guilty. He was brought forth, still bleeding from his wounds and much exhausted. He was given the full penalty of the law—ten years in Auburn prison. The judge said it would be a farce to try Johnson upon any more indictments at this term of court after the scene of to-day, which was the worst he had ever witnessed in a court-room. Johnson is regarded here as the most desperate felon ever caught in the jail. He would certainly have murdered the District Attorney to-day if he had not been caught in time.

**A DARING SCHEME.**  
How a Well-Laid Plan to Rob an Express Car Was Carried Out.  
A Milwaukee (Wis.) special says: A telegram conveying information of a daring attempt to rob an express-car on the Omaha railway was received this forenoon at the local offices of the American Express Company. The telegram was received from Camp Douglas, Wis., where the plot for committing the robbery was laid. The plan, as far as its conception was concerned, was unassured for audacity, and the attempt, which was baffled in a manner almost purely accidental, has scarcely a parallel in the criminal history of the country. The attempt was made last night. It appears that four or five men have been hanging around Camp Douglas for several days past with no apparent object in view. Last evening one of them went to the house of a farmer who lives near Camp Douglas and secured a box to be sent to the station, where he wished to ship it off by express. The farmer was paid for the job, and was told where he would find the box, which the stranger represented was filled with roots and herbs that had been gathered in the woods.

The farmer, accompanied by his son, proceeded to the spot described, which was some little distance from his home, and found the box. He attempted to lift it, and, finding it pretty heavy, had his suspicions aroused. They discussed the matter for a few moments, and concluded that the box contained a dead body. They decided to report the matter to the authorities, and went off for this purpose without carrying the box with them. They succeeded in arousing the authorities and returned to the spot, but their surprise was when they discovered that the box was empty, and that the supposed dead man had flown away easily by himself. The conclusion was instantly reached that the box had contained an express-rebber—one of the party mentioned—who had planned to effect an entrance into the American Express Company's car in this daring and unusual manner.

The car that was to have been robbed was the one attached to the late night train bound for the South on the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railroad. The robber got into the car, but would probably have secured a big haul, unless frustrated by the messenger.

The daring scheme is only equalled by the curious manner in which it was defeated. A strong effort is being made to capture the would-be robbers.

**He Lost the Money on Blaine.**  
A Hartford (Conn.) telegram says: In the United States Court to-day James D. Cook, the former postmaster at Unionville, who pleaded guilty to embezzlement, was sentenced by Judge Shipman to a year and a half's imprisonment in the county jail, and to pay a fine of \$3,000, which is a little above the amount of his stealings. Upon the expiration of the jail sentence he may,

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Headwaters of the Ohio River.

A Callensburg (Ky.) special says: A

gentleman who arrived here last night brings the news of a neighboring war on the headwaters of the Ohio river. The leaders in the trouble are Talt Hall on one side and Clabe Jones on the other. Each had from twenty to thirty desperate followers. The origin of the trouble is said to have been the killing of a man named Salzer some time last March, in Floyd county, when Jones charged Hall with being responsible for the murder. This caused Hall, who has killed two or three men in his time, to go on the war path. The latter, apprized of his danger, rallied his friends, and Hall was put on the defensive. A few days ago the Hall party were driven into a house by Jones and his men, and since then the war has been waged in earnest